

NCL Publications

■ *Rescue and Preservation of Chinese Precious Books*



National Central Library
Published in April 2013
ISBN:9789576785672

The NCL boasts a robust collection of Chinese rare books from the Song, Yuan, and Ming dynasties. This is primarily due to the fact that in 1940-41, during the World War II, a secret purchase of several private collections was conducted in the enemy-occupied area of Shanghai. With the support of the Ministry of Education and the Board of Trustees of Sino-British Gengkuan at the time, and under the direction of former NCL Director General Chiang Fu-tsung, several knowledgeable people in Shanghai and Hong Kong formed the Rare Book Preservation Society to secretly acquire and preserve rare books. Within two years, they had risked their lives to purchase 4,864 titles (more than 48,000 volumes).

Due to the chaos of the time, 80 titles were selected to be shipped with escort to Hong Kong, then airmailed to Chongqing, and from there forwarded to Taiwan. In conjunction with the NCL's 80th anniversary this year, 80 titles from the

collection of rare books that these great men risked their lives for were selected for publishing this catalog.

■ *The Joy of Reading*



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In conjunction with World Book and Copyright Day, the NCL compiled a selection of modern poems with themes related to “books, reading, and libraries.” Bringing together 47 poems by 36 poets, the collection is the NCL's first poetry anthology since the 2012 publication, “*Spring Poetry Reading Day: 100 Possibilities in Modern Poetry.*”

■ *A New Paradigm for Globalized Knowledge and Library Development*



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